IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the descriptions of Figures 2A and 2B in the Brief Description of the Drawings, beginning on page 5, line 16, of the Substitute Specification submitted on April 7, 2009 as follows:

FIG. 2A is an enlarged partial transverse cross-sectional view taken along line A-A of FIG. 1 showing a shaft tooth section and a hub tooth section which are held in mesh with each other with no load applied thereto;

FIG. 2B is an enlarged partial transverse cross-sectional view taken along line A-A of FIG. 1 showing a shaft tooth section and a hub tooth section which are held in mesh with each other with torque applied thereto in the direction indicated by the arrow Y;

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 8, of the Substitute Specification submitted on April 7, 2009 as follows:

The shaft 12 has fitting portions 18 on its respective opposite ends each fitting in an axial hole 16 in the hub 14. In FIG. 1, only one end of the shaft 12 is shown, with the other end omitted from illustration. The fitting portion 18 has a shaft tooth section 22 (various configurations of which are illustrated in Figures 4 and 5 with the corresponding reference numbers 22' and 22", respectively) comprising a plurality of straight spline teeth 20 which have a predetermined tooth length in the axial direction of the shaft 12 and which are formed successively in the circumferential direction of the shaft 12. Specifically, the shaft tooth section 22 comprises a circumferentially alternate

succession of convex peaks 22a (the other embodiment of which is illustrated in the appropriate figures with the following corresponding reference number 22a') and concave valleys 22b.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 17, of the Substitute Specification submitted on April 7, 2009 as follows:

The shaft 12 has a shaft shank 24 (various configurations of which are illustrated in Figures 4 and 5 with the corresponding reference numbers 24' and 24'', respectively) extending from an end of the shaft tooth section 22 which is closer to the center of the shaft 12. A retaining ring (not shown) is mounted in an annular groove (not shown) defined in the end of the shaft 12 for preventing the hub 14 from being released from the shaft 12.